

Message Text

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17
ACTION SS-30

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 3769

EXDIS

DEPT PASS AEC

E O 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, IS
SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT KATZIR

1. DR GILBERT OMENN, WHITE HOUSE FELLOW AND SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO CHAIRMAN, USAEC AND SCIATT CHINN MET WITH PRESIDENT KATZIR JULY 7. OMENN HAD BEEN FORMER STUDENT OF PRESIDENT KATZIR IN 1962 AT WEIZMANN INSTITUTE SO THE CALL WAS LARGELY SOCIAL IN NATURE.

2. DURING DISCUSSION OF US-EGYPT NUCLEAR AGREEMENT, KATZIR COMMENTED THAT HE ACCEPTED THE INEVITABILITY OF EGYPTIAN ACQUISITION OF NUCLEAR REACTORS, BUT THAT ISRAEL WAS NEVERTHELESS UNDERSTANDABLY CONCERNED. AGREEMENT WOULD ALLOW VITAL EGYPTIAN TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE IN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. SAFEGUARDS, HOWEVER RIGID, COULD NOT ENSURE AGAINST IRRATIONAL ACTS. HE POINTED TO PAST INSTABILITY OF ARAB REGIMES AND SUDDEN REVERSALS OF FOREIGN POLICY, E.G. RELATIONS WITH USSR.

3. KATZIR EVADED QUESTION OF NPT REFERRING INSTEAD TO FORMER PRIMIN ESHKOL STATEMENT THAT ISRAEL WOULD NOT BE FIRST TO INTRODUCE NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN REGION.
VELIOTES

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NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED AEC.

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NNN

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